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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.             | CONFIRMATION NO.            |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10/800,733   | 03/16/2004  | Kazuto Yamamoto      | 011350-328                      | 1040                        |
| 21839  | 7590        | 06/11/2010           |                                 |                             |
| BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC<br>POST OFFICE BOX 1404<br>ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>WILLS, LAWRENCE E   |                             |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2625                | PAPER NUMBER                |
|  |             |                      | NOTIFICATION DATE<br>06/11/2010 | DELIVERY MODE<br>ELECTRONIC |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ADIPFDD@bipc.com  
offserv@bipc.com

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/800,733

**Applicant(s)**

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

**Examiner**

LAWRENCE E. WILLS

**Art Unit**

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 38, 41, 42, 46, 49, 50, 54 and 58-61 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 38, 41, 46, 49 and 54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 42, 50 and 58-61 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 1-5 of Appeal Brief Conference Request, filed February 1, 2010, with respect to claims 38, 41, 42, 46, 49, 50, 54, and 58-61 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The U.S.C. 103 (a) rejection of 38, 41, 42, 46, 49, 50, 54, and 58-61 has been withdrawn.

### ***Double Patenting***

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

3. Claims 38, 41, 46, 49, and 54 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 4, and 7 of U. S. Patent No. 7,450,253 since the claims, if allowed, would improperly extend the "right to exclude" already granted in the patent.

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the patent and is covered by the patent since the patent and the application are claiming common subject matter, as follows:

| Application 10/800733  | Patent 7450253   |
|--|--|
| Claim 38. An image forming device, comprising: a reading unit for reading image data from an electronic tag of | an image reading unit for reading out the image data from the electronic tag of said electronically tagged printed |

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|---|--|
| an electronically tagged printed matter wherein image data is printed on an electronically tagged printing paper equipped with the electronic tag for storing electronic data in a certain part of the printing paper and said electronic tag stores image data printed on said electronically tagged printing paper; | matters;....wherein image data is printed on an electronically tagged printing paper equipped with an electronic tag for storing electronic data in a certain part of the printing paper and said electronic tag stores image data printed on said electronically tagged printing paper, |
| a second reading unit for reading out modifiable attribute information corresponding to attribute information which constitutes an appearance of original image data of the image data on said electronically tagged printed matter from said electronic tag;   | an attribute information reading unit for reading out attribute information of an electronically tagged printed matter   |
| a display unit for displaying the modifiable attribute information read out by said second reading unit;  | a display unit for displaying modifiable items among attribute information read out by said attribute information reading unit;  |
| a modifying unit for modifying the  | an attribute information modifying   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| modifiable attribute information read out by said second reading unit;   | unit for modifying the attribute information displayed by said display unit;   |
| and a printing unit for printing image data read by said reading unit, based on the attribute information modified by said modifying unit.   | an image data modifying unit for modifying the image data read out by said image data reading unit based on the attribute information modified by said attribute information modifying unit; a printing unit for printing the image data modified by said image data modifying unit on another electronically tagged printing paper equipped with an electronic tag for storing electronic data in a certain part of the another printing paper; |
| Claim 41. a writing unit for writing the image data printed by said printing unit on the electronic tag of the electronically tagged printing paper on which the image data is printed by said printing unit | a writing unit for writing the attribute information read out by said attribute information reading unit and the image data read out by said image data reading unit on the electronic tag of the another electronically tagged  |

|  |   |
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|  | printing paper on which the modified image data is printed by said printing unit. |
|--|---|

Claim 46 and 49 correspond to claim 4 of Patent 7,450,253 as described in the table above.

Claim 54 corresponds to claim 7 of Patent 7,450,253 as described in the table above.

Furthermore, there is no apparent reason why applicant was prevented from presenting claims corresponding to those of the instant application during prosecution of the application which matured into a patent. See *In re Schneller*, 397 F.2d 350, 158 USPQ 210 (CCPA 1968). See also MPEP § 804.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 42, 50, and 58-61 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAWRENCE E. WILLS whose telephone number is (571)270-3145. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

LEW  
June 4, 2010